

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

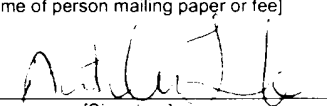
Docket No.: HORTIG

In re Application of:)
PHILIPP HORTIG et al.)
Filed: Simultaneously Herewith)
For: APPARATUS FOR MANUAL CONTROL, IN PARTICULAR OF A DRIVING GEAR AND/OR LIFTING GEAR OF A LOAD-LIFTING DEVICE)

PTO
10/032305
12/21/01

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Express Mail mailing label number: EV 042503383 US
Date of Deposit December 21, 2001
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
ANTONELLA FUSILLO [Name of person mailing paper or fee]
 [Signature]

S I R:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references A) to G) which were cited in a German Office Action issued by the German Patent Office with regard to the corresponding German patent application No. 100 65 847.4-22 and reference H) which is cited in the instant specification. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited documents constitutes prior art against the pending application.

	Country:	Patent or Appl. No:	Patentee or Applicant:	Issue or Filing Date:
A)	Germany	DE 197 31 345 A1	HBC-electronic	01-28-1999
B)	Germany	DE 918 657	Gensel	09-30-1954
C)	Germany	DE 928 197	Herker Kurt	05-26-1955
D)	Germany	DE 199 01 330 A1	W. Gessmann	08-24-2000
E)	Germany	DE 196 47 148 A1	Wergen Gerhard	12-04-1997
F)	Germany	DE 298 17 109 U1	Espresso	03-02-2000
G)	Germany	DE 198 02 249 C2	Weber Baldrun	09-09-1999
H)	Germany	DE 297 19 865 U1	Münnekehoff G.	04-23-1998

Copies of these references are submitted herewith along with form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d), so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

- ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the issuance of a first office but before issuance of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311.
- ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
- ☐ The undersigned submits the following statement requesting consideration of this statement:

The undersigned hereby states:

- ☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;
- ☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
- ☐ The fee of \$180.00 set forth in 1.17(p).
- ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee as set forth in 1.17(p), and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

[] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

In addition, applicant notes with respect to any information that is not in English language as follows:

Reference A) discloses a remote control device intended for conveying and lifting machinery and provided as a hand-held transmitter having a housing (1) which incorporates a push-button operating device (3), associated with a coaxial snap-action element (4) and an elastic proportional operator (6).

Reference B) discloses a switch for electric motors, in particular crane motors.

Reference C) discloses a control switch for lifting gears with push-buttons (i, m) arranged in an axis.

Reference D) discloses a device for controlling a crane, hoist or the like. The device converts a pivoting motion into an electrical signal and has a fixed rod (3a) with a handle element (2) on its free end that can pivot in the x, y and z directions.

Reference E) discloses a control element in the form of a joystick.

Reference F) discloses a handle for a carriage.

Reference G) discloses a method and device for the control of the speed of a vehicle, including the incorporation of at least one pressure and/or contact sensor in the steering wheel of the vehicle. The sensor delivers signals which are

proportional to the pressure exerted on the sensor and transmitted to an evaluation unit.

The above-identified application discloses and claims an invention patentable over this prior art.

Entry of the references above set forth into the file of the above application is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

Respectfully submitted

By: 

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